Preserve Honors Three with Land Ethics Award

The Preserve presented our fourth annual Land Ethics Awards at the Land Ethics Symposium on February 20, 2014. The award honors those who have made significant contributions to the promotion of native plants and have exhibited a strong land ethic while promoting sustainable designs that protect the environment. This year’s recipients are Bucks County SPCA’s Upper Bucks Shelter and Haverford Township’s Haverford Reserve Community Recreation & Environmental Education Center. A special Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to New Jersey Audubon’s Stewardship Department.

The Bucks County SPCA opened their new Upper Bucks Shelter (pictured above) on a 25-acre site in Richland Township in February 2012. Co-designed by Bucks County landscape architects Peg Prizer and David Hughes, the site is intended to have the feel of a country farm with a park-like setting – appropriate in keeping with the character of Bucks County. A principal goal of the site development was to create minimum disturbance to the landscape. An additional consideration was to limit the need for annual maintenance through intelligent selection of plant material appropriate for each individual microclimate. The site was surveyed for existing native flora, and then a diverse plant palette was developed and implemented, replacing most invasive plants within the site. New plantings, such as a new hedgerow habitat off the parking area, created connections to adjacent natural habitats. The SPCA is enjoying the opportunity to view birds and wildlife right outside the facilities’ windows.

The Land Ethics Award jury was “especially impressed with the functionality of design of the SPCA facility and how artfully it blends into the Upper Bucks County landscape. The choice of native plants in the design was well thought out and helped create the low maintenance, environmentally sustainable landscape that was one of the main project goals.”

Maintaining and creating an ecologically sustainable site and landscape was of the utmost importance to Haverford Township in the creation of its new Community Recreation and Environmental Center. Funding for the project came from Haverford Reserve, the PA Energy Department Authority, and the PA Redevelopment Assistance Program. The design team included architect Kimmel-Bogrette Architecture + Site, and landscape architect ThinkGreen LLC. The project was awarded Gold LEED certification in 2013. The building incorporates numerous green features.

New Do-it-Yourself Team is Making a Difference

This March we launched a new volunteer team dedicated to on-going maintenance issues at the Preserve. This dedicated corps is helping us address our ever-growing “Honey-Do” list, matching each volunteer with a project that they are comfortable with and enjoy doing. Dubbed the Do-it-Yourself or “DIY” Team, they have already tackled several projects such as installing a new decorative enclosure to hide the utilities at the new pond. They have also removed and replaced bench supports in our Gazebo that suffered damage from gnawing squirrels. On a rainy day the team even moved indoors to scrub down our much used tables in the Visitor Center auditorium. Future projects on the to-do list include renovation of the bathrooms down by the Moore Pavilion, building a platform inside (continued on page 11).
Sharing makes everything better, especially the Preserve. This truth became very evident to me during the guided walks I led this beautiful spring season. Each group I took descended into the wildflower vale on the Parry trail and waded into a sea of bluebells, and it was magical to see the look on their faces and hear the oohs! and ahhhs! Their reaction is one of wonder and amazement, and that helps me always remember how special this place is no matter how many times I see it.

On a recent Preserve tour with members of Stonybrook Millstone Watershed Association we spotted several scarlet tanagers flitting in the trees, the sun shining brightly on their scarlet plumage. Our collective delight was magnified by the fact that we all were discovering nature and sharing a moment of beauty and insight together. Seeing it on a solo walk would still have been nice, but it was much more special to see it with 12 other nature-lovers!

While working at the new Pond recently I met a family visiting from out of town, their two young children, a girl and a boy, were excitedly pointing out new discoveries to each other as they circled the Pond. Tadpoles! A green frog! Water striders! -- each sibling was so eager to share what they had discovered with the other. Their sharing made their discovery and learning better, more meaningful, and simply more fun.

I suppose most of us are like that – we relish shared special moments. Those things make fond memories and help bring us closer to each other and closer to nature, and that is a wonderful thing.

So with that in mind I want to encourage you to share the Preserve with someone this season in whatever way is meaningful to you personally. It could be your family – mothers and fathers, children and grandchildren. It could be a friend – an out of town visitor or a lifelong companion. Who you share the discovery with is totally up to you. Just share it with someone this summer, because discovery and learning and exploring are all more enjoyable when we have someone with us to share the experience.

See you on the trails!

- Miles Arnott, Executive Director

Special Thanks

We’d like to extend special thanks to the following instructors who have donated their time, talent, and expertise to our spring programs:
Mary Anne Borge, Ed Lignowski, Ph.D., Nancy Neff, Pam Newitt and Margie Rutbell.

Best of Luck to our Graduating High School Students!
Rachel Barlow and Emily Fitzgerald have been volunteering in the Twinleaf Shop on Saturdays for over a year. They are both amazing young ladies. We wish you the best of luck in college. May you continue your love of nature and your dedication to volunteering!

Wish List

We would be grateful for donations of craft supplies for our family programs. Specific items of need are:
yarn, ribbon, paper plates, toilet paper tubes, pipe cleaners, glue sticks and white glue.

Thank you!
Welcome to New Staff Members

Angela Jacobsen joined the staff as Director of Development on March 8, 2014. Angela is responsible for fundraising activities including annual fund, planned giving, grant writing and oversight of membership and communications. Angela brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Preserve in the areas of development and communications. She has a Chartered Advisor of Philanthropy designation from the American College in Bryn Mawr. In addition, she is a Certified Fundraising Executive. Highlights of her career include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County where she was Director of Development, Elwyn where she was Executive Director of Development and Communications, and Doylestown Hospital where she was Capital Campaign Manager for the new Emergency Department. Angela loves the mission of the Preserve and is delighted to be part of the staff!

Rick Fonda joined the staff as the Preserve’s Grounds Manager on March 19th 2014. Rick is responsible for the care and oversight of the Preserve’s diverse property, with a special focus on grounds management. He brings more than a decade of experience working with plants and landscapes, most recently organic vegetable growing for Greener Partners, a farm-based educational non-profit. Rick’s professional accomplishments include a Certificate of Merit in Ornamental Plants from Longwood Gardens, and an arborist’s certification with the International Society of Arboriculture. Rick is motivated to shift focus from agriculture to sustainable land management and states, “I have come to realize in the course of my horticultural work that native plant communities are essential to human well being and have great value due to the ecosystem services they provide up the food chain.”

Dave Offerdahl began work as the Preserve part time Facilities Maintenance Coordinator on February 11th of this year. Dave’s responsibilities are centered around the maintenance of the Preserve’s buildings and infrastructure. Many of the wonderful improvements you see in and around the visitor center – from freshly painted floors and walls to improvements in lighting and security are due to Dave’s hard work over the winter and early spring. Dave has also taken a leadership role in the formation of our new Do It Yourself (DIY) volunteer crew which is making great strides in repairing the gazebo, constructing fences, and refurbishing the restrooms near the Captain Moore Pavilion. Dave comes to the Preserve after 28 years as a Naval aviator and a wealth of experience in property management. His ability to lead volunteers, combined with his attention to detail, have already made the Preserve better.

Please join us in welcoming all of our talented and dedicated new staff members and wish them success as they help us grow and spread the word about native plants!

Welcome New Volunteers

Welcome to our new volunteers who have joined us since last fall.
Thank you for helping fulfill our mission!

Christopher Bossi
Tina Christensen
Frank Dahlhaus
Claudia Davis
Barbara Flagg
Irina Hewitt-Galdaktionova
Lynn Holzner
Melanie Kavanaugh
Maddy Kear
Kristin Mednick
Michael Mitrane
Nancy Neff
Sue Padva
George Plocher
Jeff Roberts
Rick Raskin
Barbara Sheinmel
Ruby Stanmyer

big bluestem, Andropogon gerardii
Reflections on Our New Pond Habitat

The past 12 months have brought many “new” things to Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve—new faces, new structures and a much celebrated new habitat. Our beautiful, sunny pond, with flowing water, flowering forbs and native grasses provides much needed diversity in an otherwise dry upland site. And now, a full year after its dedication, we are amazed at how well the plants adapted to their new environment and how quickly animals discovered this new habitat, including new animals we hadn't previously seen.

Perhaps none visited and observed the pond more than our very own Mary Anne Borge. A peek inside her Naturalist's Notebook provides a glimpse of the glory that has unfolded:

By late April 2013 we saw egg masses of American toads in the water, and by early July the young toads scampered in the grass, jumping away as humans approached. Many species of dragonflies and damselflies that we hadn't previously observed at the Preserve took advantage of the pond, the wetland plants, and other insects there to support mating, and provide food and shelter. The airspace above the pond was thick with them.

Butterflies love the new habitat, especially plants like buttonbush, Joe-pye-weed, short-toothed mountain mint, and pickerel-weed. The plants at the pond were a hot spot for our butterfly count in July, sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). In late summer we had two butterfly species, sleepy oranges and cloudless sulphurs, regularly laying eggs on their caterpillar food plants, wild senna, often during our guided tours. We were able to point out eggs, caterpillars and pupa (chrysalises) to visitors. And these two species are not common here! Based on the results of NABA's butterfly count, the Preserve is the only location in Pennsylvania or New Jersey known to regularly host Sleepy Oranges, a southern species. It was a terrific way to show visitors of all ages how important native plants are in supporting life. In fall, migrating warblers stopped to visit, and cedar waxwings were regularly found in their namesake tree, Eastern red cedar.

The cycle of life continues as we enter the pond's second year of existence. Wood frogs and American toads laid their eggs, bullfrog and green frog tadpoles were observed in the water and water beetles whirl on the surface as if pulled by an invisible string. As we dive deeper into the summer months, the meadow around the perimeter of the pond will continue to mature, expanding the habitat and drawing in additional animal visitors. We invite you to relax by the pond and take in all that's “new.” Enjoy!

- Kelly Joslin

Welcome to our Summer Interns

We are pleased to welcome two new interns to the Preserve this summer: Sara Kuhn and Adeline Schlussel.

Sara Kuhn, of Titusville, NJ, is a junior at Emory University where she studies Environmental Science and International Studies with a focus on conservation efforts. She has had the opportunity to work with refugee populations through Global Growers, helping them cultivate seasonal crops. In this role she also assisted with the removal of invasive species, tree planting, and garden upkeep. She believes that community outreach and involvement is the best way to propagate the importance of native plants. This summer she hopes to foster an interest in botany and nature in children so they might find the same joy in their surroundings that she has.

Adeline Schlussel, a native of Doylestown, PA, is a junior at St. Mary’s College where she is majoring in Environmental Studies with minors in Museum Studies and Philosophy. Adeline is actively involved in environmental education, volunteering for the St. Mary’s River Project, and has served as a summer nature camp assistant at both Peace Valley Nature Center and Riverbend Environmental Education Center. She volunteers on her campus farm and is an editorial board member for the St. Mary's Review. A National Merit Finalist, Adeline is enthusiastic about increasing her knowledge of botany and our native plants, both to indulge her own excitement about nature and so she can share that excitement with others.
New! Campfire Magic
Saturday, June 28, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Members: $5; Non-members: $8

Bring the kids for an evening of stories, folklore and songs around a blazing fire. Led by folksinger Anna Stange, we'll sing about seasonal happenings in nature. The evening will end with a marshmallow roast. Audience participation is a must! Program is held in the pavilion. Feel free to bring a blanket and/or chairs.
Advance registration required by June 26.

Fall Native Plant Sale
With native plants, you can create a beautiful landscape that benefits the environment. A premier selection of over 200 species of high-quality herbaceous and woody plants will be available for purchase. Knowledgeable staff and volunteers will be on hand to help you choose the most suitable plants for your site and to answer questions.
Free resource/educational materials available.

Members’ Preview Sale Event
Friday, September 5
FREE - Preserve Members Only!
Watch for details.

Fall Native Plant Sale: Open to the Public
September 6 – 28,
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (closed Mondays)

Discovery Day
Sunday, September 21
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Fun for all Ages!

Discover the secrets of nature's garden!
This year our popular community Open House day is timed to capture the finale of the summer season and welcome the glory of autumn!
Take a guided tour through the magnificent meadow at its best, brimming with colorful native perennials, grasses, and beautiful butterflies or explore the grounds on a family treasure hunt.
The event features presentations with live animals, music by Used Karma, refreshments, and activities especially for kids, such as insect hunts, nature crafts and much more! Bring your family, friends and neighbors. Find out more online at:

Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve
Program fees include admission. For more information on any of our programs, or to register, contact us at (215) 862-2924.
Register early to guarantee a class will meet the minimum enrollment.

The Preserve is open year-round, Tuesday – Sunday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. We are open Labor Day, Monday September 2, from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving Day, November 28, and from Monday, December 23 through Wednesday, January 1, 2014.

Admission for Preserve Members is Free.
Non-members: Adults - $5, Seniors (62+) - $3, Students (with I.D.) - $3, Children 4 to14 - $2, Under 4 - free.
Guided Wildflower Walks
Every Tuesday – Sunday through October 31, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Members: Free; Non-members: Tour included with admission.

Learn about the Preserve’s history, habitats, and important plant/animal interactions while enjoying the beauty of our trails. Join Preserve staff or our talented Volunteer Naturalists for these daily tours. Tours depart from Visitor Center for a minimum of two visitors, weather permitting.

Morning Meadow Tours
Wednesdays, July 23 through September 10, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Members: Free; Non-members: Included with Preserve admission.
Advance registration suggested.

Amidst a sea of waving green grasses, native bees and butterflies gather nectar or pollen from milkweeds, mints, bonesets and coneflowers. Before the day heats up, take a guided tour of our five-acre meadow to learn about native warm season grasses, meadow ecology and plant-pollinator interactions. This vigorous walk leaves from the Visitor Center.

North American Butterfly Association Butterfly Count
Saturday, July 19, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
$3 per participant, all proceeds will be donated to the North American Butterfly Association (NABA).
Advance registration suggested.

Join us for an all-day event focusing on our fluttering friends. Why count butterflies? It helps scientists piece together the big picture, including changes over time, of the distribution and population size of each species counted. And it’s fun! You’ll learn to identify the different types of butterflies and the native plants they utilize at the Preserve. Please bring binoculars, or a camera with a zoom lens, and a field guide, if available. Make sure you have plenty of water, snacks, and appropriate sun protection. Join us for all or part of the day; all experience levels are welcome, from beginners to experienced butterflyers. Check-in at the Visitor Center.

Confusing Fall Warblers
Saturday, August 16, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Members: $20; Non-members: $30. Register by August 14.

Bird expert Pete Bacinski presents a comprehensive workshop on the identification of warblers in their basic (fall) plumage with discussion of arrival dates and natural history. A PowerPoint presentation will illustrate all of the area’s fall warbler visitors concentrating on the most difficult ID challenges with many of these similar looking birds.

Piedmont Explorers: Autumn Colors
Saturday, September 27, 10:00 a.m. – Noon
Fee: $12

The Piedmont is an area of the U.S. stretching from New Jersey to Alabama characterized by rolling hills, complex geology, and tremendous biological diversity. This program is part of a series developed through a partnership between the Preserve and Duke Farms. In this program, nature’s colors come to life through a palette of autumn flowering plants, fleshy fruits and jewel toned leaves. Discover the variety of fall perennials, shrubs and trees that play an important role in the fall landscape.
**Children’s Summer Reading**

Every Thursday through August 21, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Members: FREE; Non-members: $7 for one child with adult + $3 for each additional child. Registration required by the Tuesday prior to each program.

Join us to explore nature’s alphabet! We’ll read exciting books about the outdoors, take hikes through the Preserve in search of the plants and critters in our stories, and make nature crafts to take home. This program is appropriate for ages 3 through 8. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Each session is unique, so join us for as many as you like.

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**New! National S’more Day Celebration**

Sunday, August 10, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Members: $5; Non-members: $8
Register by August 8.

There is no better way to celebrate National S’more Day than by making your own around the fire! Bring the entire family out for a night around the campfire where we’ll share stories and make s’mores. An optional night hike is included too! Program takes place at the Pavilion.

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**Night Owls**

Saturday, October 4, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Members: $15/family; Non-members: $20/family
Register by Wednesday, October 1.

Don your pajamas and join us for an engaging program about owls. We’re teaming up with the New Hope-Solebury Library to bring you stories, cool owl biofacts and a chance to discover firsthand what an owl ate for lunch when you dissect a real owl pellet.

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**Fall Fun Fridays**

Fridays from 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Members: Free; Non-members: $7 for one child with adult + $3 for each additional child. Advance registration required by the Wednesday prior to each program.

Fall Fun Friday programs include a story, an outdoor walk, and a take-home art project. This program is appropriate for ages 3 through 8. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Walks are weather dependent – please dress for the weather.

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**Fantastic Foliage**

October 17
Leaves are all around us but we really start to notice their magic in autumn. Let’s explore the shapes, sizes and colors of these food factories on the Preserve’s wooded trails.

**Crawly Critters**

October 31
No legs, 6 legs, 8 legs, more! Let’s discover the critters that call the forest floor their home and what role they play in our ecosystem.

**Terrific Turkeys**

November 7
Gobble, gobble! Where does this feathered friend live and what does it eat? It’s time to turn the table for tales about turkeys.
**Weed Patrol**

Select Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. – noon
July 12, August 9, September 20, October 25

FREE. Pre-registration suggested.

Join Grounds Manager Rick Fonda for a fun morning out in the woods. Learn to identify native and non-native plants, the importance of biodiversity and how to remove and dispose of invasive species properly. A great way to learn and give back at the same time! Your efforts will help to protect our collections of rare and endangered plant species. Groups, individuals and families welcome. Dress for the weather and working in the woods. Gloves and tools supplied or bring your own. Call the Preserve to register or email Trish McGuire, mcguire@bhwp.org. Weather dependent – Weed Patrol is subject to cancellation due to inclement weather.

**Perimeter Walk**

Saturday, October 25, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Members: $6; Non-members: $10.
Registration required by Thurs., October 24

It's a fact most visitors take for granted: Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve would look radically different without our comprehensive 10 ft. tall deer fence. Have you ever wondered what lies along the edge of such a significant perimeter that encompasses nearly 100-acres of pristine and diverse woodland habitat? Join BHWP Grounds Manager Rick Fonda as he takes you on an exclusive excursion around our boundary to study the contrast between the Preserve grounds and our neighboring landscapes. This is a rigorous walk requiring a good degree of balance. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking shoes appropriate for possible wet terrain.

**Growing Native Plants: Seed Collecting**

September 13, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Members: $10; Non-members, $15.
Advance registration suggested.

So many beautiful wildflowers…now let’s look at their seeds! Take advantage of the expertise of Preserve Nursery Manager Bob Mahler and learn how to collect seed from the plants in your own backyard. This class will take you through the steps needed for successfully and responsibly collecting native plant seeds. Timing of seed collection, as well as techniques and supplies suggested for seed storage and cleaning, will also be covered. Participants will take home a packet of native seeds from the Preserve.

**New! New Jersey Pinelands Plant Explorer’s Tour**

Wednesday, September 24, 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Members: $55; Non-members: $60.
Fee includes transportation. Registration with payment required by September 10.

Join Executive Director Miles Arnott for a fascinating trip to New Jersey’s Pinelands. Low, dense forests of pine and oak, ribbons of cedar and hardwood swamps bordering drainage courses, pitch pine lowlands, and bogs and marshes combine to produce an expansive vegetative mosaic unsurpassed in the Northeast. The Pinelands also contains over 12,000 acres of “pygmy forest,” a unique stand of dwarf, but mature, pine and oak less than 11 feet tall. The ecology of the Pinelands is closely related to the occurrence of fire which resulting in a unique plant community. Space is limited - don’t miss this opportunity to discover a unique ecosystem just 90 minutes away!
Art in Nature

Intro to Nature Photography
Saturday, August 23, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Members: $35; Non-members: $45
Registration required by Thursday, Aug. 21.

Do you enjoy taking photographs of animals, flowers, and landscapes, but feel frustrated by the limitations of your camera’s automatic functions? Photographer Emily Churchill shows you how to get the most from your DSLR camera in a workshop that covers the basics of your camera’s functions, how various settings affect the look of the image, tips and tricks to make more interesting photos, and a chance to apply the techniques during a photo walk around the preserve.

The workshop will wrap up with a group critique and some advice on editing and printing your photos. Bring your fully charged camera with a blank memory card and your camera manual. You may also want to bring a tripod, bug repellent, and water. Feel free to bring extra lenses if you have them.

Naturalist Notebook:
Sketching
Saturday, September 27, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Members: $15; Non-members: $20.
Fee includes all materials.
Registration required by Thursday, Sept. 25.

Nature sketching enables you to edit and capture what you see in a way that a camera sometimes can’t. You can emphasize a gesture or movement, or note an interesting texture without the technical expertise of a macro photographer. This beginner’s course will help you learn to trust what you see and build your eye-to-hand connection, with a goal of creating beautiful embellishments for your naturalist’s notebook. We’ll start with some indoor exercises before heading outdoors. Please bring a stadium cushion or folding stool if you prefer not to stand.

Find creative inspiration along our trails!
Poets of all ages are invited to enter our Poetry Contest. What does Nature’s Music mean to you? Where do you find it? How does it move or inspire you? The winning poets will be invited to share their poems at our public Poetry Reading. (see details below)
Participants may submit up to three poems. Judging will be in two categories: work by poets 17 and under, and work by poets 18 and over. Winners will be notified by October 6. Submit poems electronically to Kelly Joslin, Education Coordinator at: joslin@bhwp.org. For poets 17 and under, please include your age and school with your entry. Submissions must be received by September 26.

For more information about the Poetry Contest, visit our website: www.bhwp.org/special-events/Contests.htm

Poetry Reading
Saturday, October 25, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
FREE, advance registration suggested.
Join us for an inspiring afternoon of poetry at the Preserve, featuring the winners of our Second Annual Poetry Contest. Poets of all ages and levels will share their work, inspired by the theme of Nature’s Music.
Light refreshments will be served.

Autumn’s Bounty Centerpiece Workshop
Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. - noon
Members: $65; Non-members: $75
Fee includes all materials.
Registration required by Thurs., Nov. 6.

Join Executive Director Miles Arnott for a morning of fun and creativity as we use natural materials to craft a beautiful fall centerpiece in time to grace your holiday table.

Wreath Workshop
Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m. – noon
Members: $55; Non-members: $60.
Fee includes all materials. Registration with payment required by Wed., December 3.

Join the fun and make a festive holiday wreath out of natural materials and native plants including juniper, white pine, and holly. Preserve Executive Director Miles Arnott will lead the workshop with step-by-step demonstration and hands-on instruction to help you create a work of art that you’ll be proud to display during the holiday season. Space is limited, register early for this popular workshop!

Painting en Pleine Air
Five Tuesdays: July 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th & August 5th, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Study with Alex Cohen, local painter and graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Alex has exhibited extensively in Philadelphia, Bucks County and New York and is a regular contributor to the Bucks County Herald. He has taught at George School and the Robert Beck Academy and steers his classes towards intuitive discovery partnered with core technical skills. For this oil painting class he will help students of all levels decode the landscape through a tonal experience. Class will be held in the Pavilion. $280 for the full series or $60 per class.

For more information, or to register, contact Alex directly by phone: (215) 603-6573, or email: Alex@alexcohenart.com

Alex Cohen captured our new Pond at the 2013 Spring Garden Gala. Photo by Carol Ross.
News

Thank you to our Earth Day Volunteers

Earth Day was established in 1970 as an opportunity to demonstrate for a sustainable environment. The event was the brainchild of then US Senator Gaylord Nelson. The day generated an unprecedented political alignment, which led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clear Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts.

Each year at the Preserve, we continue the tradition by protecting our rare and endangered native plants with a team of eager, eco conscience volunteers including employees of local businesses, families, individuals, Girl Scouts, high school students, retirees, and veterans. This year 75 volunteers joined the staff and made great strides in clearing the storm ravaged tree limbs that blocked trails, damaged understory and blanketed large areas of emerging wildflowers. We were also successful in repairing sections of the fence, picking up trash along River Road, removing invasive plants, expanding the nursery growing area, and propagating plants for the Spring Native Plant Sale.

Afterwards, we gathered inside the Visitor’s Center and enjoyed a buffet lunch, dessert and stories of our morning’s adventures. We are grateful to our community for their donations which made this event possible: GIANT Food Stores, New Hope PA; LenkaBar, York PA; Bucks Coffee and Ice Cream, Lambertville NJ; Shoprite, Flemington NJ.

We will continue our efforts all season long and welcome you to join us on the grounds for some fresh air, a hardy workout and great companionship.
- Trish McGuire

Plant Stewardship Index Update: Two Futures
Jared Rosenbaum, PSI Coordinator, April 2014

Just off my desk today was a report on our extensive Plant Stewardship Index surveys at Baldpate Mountain, across the Delaware River from and slightly south of Bowman's Hill. As like and unlike as siblings, Baldpate has a lot in common with Bowman's Hill, with similar species composition and geology, as well as some fundamental differences.

Here is a brief excerpt from the introduction:

Walking Baldpate, one sees intimations of two possible futures.

The grimmer vision is of a forest dramatically simplified in floral and faunal diversity, with a canopy of senescent trees and an undergrowth of ruderal weeds and invasive shrubs, or perhaps just bare ground and Japanese stilgrass. If one simply extrapolates current trajectories into the future, this diminishment seems inevitable; and many places on the mountain bear this out as current reality and not just paranoia.

The more optimistic vision sees a synthesis of thriving generalists and opportunistic plant species, where natives like spicebush, white avens, bottlebrush grass and blackhaw hold their own with multiflora rose and autumn olive; the occasional "you never knew it was so tough" native herb (jack-in-the-pulpit, or even, perhaps, the rare species Cynoglossum virginianum) persists and perhaps expands its extent. Is there room here still for Solomon's seal, Christmas fern, bloodroot? For a diverse native shrub understory? Many places at Baldpate bear out an optimistic scenario, though not as many perhaps as the grimmer one outlined above.

Ultimately, the future of Baldpate is deeply enmeshed with the developing practice of land stewardship and ecological restoration. If the land still bears mapleleaf viburnum and perfoliate bellwort a century from now, not to mention showy orchis and roundlobe hepatica, it will be a credit to the stewardship of the organizations that hold the land in public trust – Mercer County Parks and the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space, as well as a testament to the resilience of the plants themselves.

For more about Baldpate Mountain, look for the full report and survey findings at www.bhwp.org/plant-stewardship-index.htm.

Thanks to Conservation Resources, Inc., for funding the project through its Franklin Parker Small Grants program, to Preserve Volunteer Naturalist Pat Coleman for extensive review and organization of survey data, and to Volunteer Naturalist Catherine Williams for her assistance with a transect survey on some very steep and rocky terrain!
Land Ethics Award  (continued from front page)

energy and water conservation systems including geothermal heating and cooling, and expansive windows that take advantage of passive solar heat in summer and prevent heat loss in winter. Nearly 100% of the building's and site's stormwater is captured and filtered naturally through vegetated bioswales, infiltration basins, and native meadow plantings. Community amenities featured at the center include a double gymnasium, a year round walking track, community meeting rooms, health and wellness studios, an environmental classroom and lab, and an environmental nature area for community education programs and fieldtrips for local schools and organizations.

The Land Ethics Award Jury was impressed with “the large scope of this project and the importance attached to environmental design parameters. This LEED certified Community Center touches the land lightly. We're incredibly impressed with not only the building’s wonderful functional design, but with the sheer beauty of the facility itself; it is literally breath-taking.”

A special award for Lifetime Achievement was presented to New Jersey Audubon's Stewardship Department to recognize their sustained commitment to the protection and preservation of the Delaware Valley's natural resources. The society is committed to the preservation of New Jersey's natural habitats and the protection of its threatened and endangered species.

NJA carries out its mission through activities such as:
- Management of natural resources, and land acquisition;
- Environmental education programs for children, teen-agers and adults;
- Research efforts, including field work and publications;
- Urban initiatives to link people in cities with the natural environment; and,
- Advocacy at the local, state and national levels.

Particularly noteworthy to the awards jury is NJA's creation of The Corporate Stewardship Council (CSC), a group of 18 New Jersey companies united behind a common goal of environmental sustainability and responsibility. Members of the CSC work closely with staff at NJA to evaluate habitat restoration or enhancement potential on their property or affiliated sites. Once identified, the partners work together to develop and implement a conservation plan intended to improve upon existing conditions and enhance habitat for rare wildlife and plants.

The Land Ethics Award jury was particularly impressed by the synergy developed by NJA's link with other organizations, especially large corporations. The Corporate Stewardship Council (CSC), has been incredibly productive and resulted in major habitat restoration projects throughout New Jersey.

The 2014 Land Ethics Award was juried by Don Borden, adjunct professor of environmental design at Delaware Valley College; James Bray, Chairman of the Lower Makefield Township Environmental Council; and Pam Newitt, naturalist and educator. For more information on the Land Ethics Award, visit www.bhwp.org/education/Land-Ethics-Award.htm, or contact Preserve Education Coordinator Kelly Joslin.

DIY Team  (continued from front page)

the pond’s spring house, interior and exterior painting at the Visitor’s Center, and shed repairs, just to name a few.

The team is led by Facilities Maintenance Coordinator, Dave Offerdahl. We have a lot of fun working together, learning together, and making an essential contribution to the Preserve’s infrastructure. If you’re handy and have time to contribute, please consider joining our team. Contact Trish McGuire, Volunteer Coordinator or Dave Offerdahl if you’d like to get involved. Many thanks to our inaugural DIY Team members: Ian McNeill, Jeff Roberts, Jim Newbold and Rick Raskin.

New in the Twinleaf Shop

Coming to the Twinleaf Shop this July,... The Living Landscape, the new book by Doug Tallamy, award winning author of Bringing Nature Home and Rick Darke, noted Pennsylvania based landscape design consultant, author, lecturer and photographer. The Living Landscape shows gardeners how to create a landscape that is full of life. The authors first explain each layer of the landscape and what role the plants within them play in the larger environment, from providing berries for birds, food for bugs, or a place for bees to pollinate. The authors then put this information into context and offer design strategies to implement into a home garden. In a gorgeously illustrated, inspirational, and practical way, The Living Landscape supports the important message by showing gardeners how to make it happen.
Welcome New Members

Special thanks to all of you have joined the Preserve Family in Winter and early Spring.

Joseph Albert and Christopher Doyle
The Aldrich Family
Blanche Anderson
Lorraine Anton
The Asplundh Family
Bob and Beth Auwarter
Hannie Banister
John Barry
Louis Bifano
Cheryl Bombraski
Christopher R. Bossi
Tamara and Wayne Bengel
Susan Carmalt
Marion Cavallaro
Kathie Chaikin
Connie Coe
The Collins Family
The Dawson Family
Ermelindis M. de Groot
The Devries Family
The Dinka Family
Bev Dodds
Heidi Echternacht
Kris Ehrlich
April Fijalkowski
Sue Foley
Rick Fonda
Cindy Friel
The Fry - Fullerson Family
Phillip Gange
Lisa Goetz
C.H. Graney
Nancy Wicklund Gray
Walton Hathaway
Judy Henderson
The Hight Family
Bobbi Lee Hitchon
The Holzner Family
Pauline Hurley-Kurtz
Taesoon Kang
The Karlsson Family
Anneliza Kaufer
Sarah Jane Kennedy
Nancy Kimmel
Corbey Kirk
Dawn Knipmeyer
Alda Krinsman
Melinda Carney and Tom Ksiazek
The Laurion Family
Patricia Leith
Gary Lorio
Lucy S. Malone
Marcello Mangano
The Marino Family
Suzanne Martin
Donna McCloskey
Marcia McGuire
Peg Mitchell
Dave and Bonnie Offerdahl
Mari Oresic
Lourdes Osorio
Susan Pace
Sara Plehn
The Pohorely Family
Eric Raskin
Glorianne Robbi
Michele Ruopp
Joanna Santovito
Dorothy Savryk-Stevens
Randolph Schader
Susan Schirmer
Kathryn Schwenzer
Mida Page Sheehan
Barbara Sheinmel
The Shulau Family
Donna Shumpert
Linda W. Siecke
The Stick Family
The Todor Family
Daria Walsh
The Weller Family
Gary Wood
The Wszolek Family
Dawn Wyatt
Dorothy B. Young

Become a Founding Member of the Perennial Society

The Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve’s Perennial Society was created to recognize our friends who have thoughtfully provided for the future well-being of the Preserve through a bequest or other planned gift, and who have informed us of their commitment.

These visionaries, like our founders before them, share a concern for the welfare and future of the Preserve and a belief that the Preserve will continue to serve as a valuable resource for our community and the region. Through their gifts they secure the Preserve for future generations.

Gifts You Can Make:
• Make a bequest gift to Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve in your will or revocable living trust.
• Participate in a life income arrangement for the benefit of the Preserve, including a Charitable Gift Annuity or a Charitable Remainder Trust.
• Establish a Charitable Lead Trust for the benefit of the Preserve.
• Name the Preserve as the beneficiary of a 401K or other retirement plan or life insurance policy.

Please consult your attorney about your estate plan and bequest options.

In appreciation, Perennial Society members receive invitations to Preserve events and recognition in the Twinleaf annually. Donors may choose to remain anonymous, and details of bequest and other information are always held in strictest confidence.

For additional information, or to inform us of your commitment to the Preserve, please contact Angela Jacobsen, Director of Development.

Join the Business Partner Program

Help keep us blooming for generations to come and let the community know you value our efforts to preserve the native flora of our region.

For more information about Business Membership contact Jennifer Pennington, Membership Coordinator: pennington@bhwp.org or visit our website: www.bhwp.org/get-involved/Business-Partners.htm
Annual Fund 2014

Dear Friends of the Preserve,

Life is more meaningful when shared!
Sharing makes everything better at the Preserve. A quiet walk alone with nature can certainly fill our cup with delight from time to time. Often, though, the most enriching experiences we have are when we share them with others.

There is much to be discovered together at the Preserve. The magnificent tapestry of native plants and wildflowers has emerged from a good winter’s rest. Migratory birds are finding their pathway through the Preserve, enjoying the beautiful habitat and singing a chorus of song. Butterflies are all a flutter anticipating the bountiful meadow. The new pond is teeming with tadpoles, turtles, and other wildlife that are settling into their homes, beckoning you to visit.

Life smiles on us when we are given the opportunity to look through the eyes of another at the Preserve. Whether observing your grandchild’s excitement while he studies a caterpillar or catching yourself grinning while your daughter dances with a butterfly in the meadow, sharing has enriched your experience. A walk through the Parry trail with a friend reveals a sea of fascinating bluebells, each step more beautiful with another. Discovering a new trillium bloom or finding a warbler and following its colorful plumage from tree to tree summons a glimmer in the eye and spring in the step of all of us, especially in a loved one’s company.

Together life is savored. This, our 80th year, holds a lot of promise at the Preserve. The beauty you know and love is flourishing. The addition of new educational programs brings opportunity to share our mission in exciting new ways. The Native Plant Nursery and Propagation area is undergoing a major renovation and update this year, a critical step for our sustainability.

We are so grateful to our members, volunteers and donors for your ongoing support of our mission. I hope you will visit with a friend in the near future. I also hope you will make a generous gift to our Annual Fund in support of the important work we do at the Preserve.

Annual Fund contributions help us to enhance our trails, provide innovative educational programs for all ages, interpret our native collection, and support our mission:

*Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve inspires the appreciation and use of native plants by serving as a sanctuary and an educational resource for conservation and stewardship.*

Remember to share the Preserve with your loved ones and be sure to tell us about your experience.
Thank you for your involvement and support!
Sincerely,

A. Miles Arnott

Preserve Hosts Annual Donor Recognition Event

We hosted our annual Donor Recognition event on the morning of Saturday March 8 to recognize the generosity of our 2013 donors and upper level members. Board Chair Allison Hamilton and Executive Director Miles Arnott welcomed guests and provided an update on 2014 activities, educational programs, and projects. A lively discussion followed their remarks. We’d like to thank our supporters that were able to attend this year’s event. We’re grateful for the opportunity to recognize the many individuals that help sustain the Preserve.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Colonial Farms for their sponsorship of the Donor Recognition Event.

*Kelly Joslin, Pam Newitt, Hilary and Michael Glenn*
11th Annual Spring Garden Gala Celebrates the Trees of the Preserve

Our native tree canopy provides the microclimate that enables our delicate woodland wildflowers to thrive. The long and devastating winter took its toll on our trees, breaking limbs and felling entire specimens. Thus we turned our attention to our trees at our annual Wild About Flowers Spring Garden Gala which took place on Saturday April 26, 2014. Gala attendees, attired in “black tie and muck boots,” enjoyed an elegant evening to benefit restoration of our woodland.

Allison Hargreaves, Jacqui Griffith and Betsy Falconi served as co-chairs for this special fundraising event, which attracted over 300 guests. A passing thunderstorm during the cocktail hour could not dampen the festivities! As guests arrived, they were invited to place their bids in the silent auction. Specimen flowering trees were featured as well as a special exhibit of photo prints by local nature photographers: Mary Anne Borge, Gerry DeWaghe, Howard Eskin, Jim Greenwood, Gordon Neiburg and Jeff Worthington. The Bucks County Trolley provided transportation to the Visitor Center for self-guided walks and naturalist led tours. The woodland wildflowers were at their peak of perfection!

Event designer Rusty Thomas combined fallen tree limbs, victims of the harsh winter, with dramatic lighting to create a woodland atmosphere inside the dining tent. The Preserve’s meadow came to life with beautiful lanterns and flowering trees. The hors d’oeuvres, dinner, and dessert featured locally grown and organic selections prepared by Max Hansen Caterers. Janet Crum played dulcimer and Alison Simpson Trio entertained guests during dinner. Later, guests danced the night away to the music of Bob Egan Entertainment.

The honored guest of the evening was Trustee Bill MacDowell. Executive Director Miles Arnott recognized Bill for his commitment and dedication to the Preserve. Larry Keller, Mayor of New Hope and owner of Hobensack & Keller, served as auctioneer for the live auction. In addition to the live auction items, a special “raise your paddle” bidding effort was made to raise funds for woodland restoration educational programs. We extend our thanks to the guests, sponsors and volunteers that made this event a success.

Special thanks go to the following volunteers:

Spring Garden Gala

The Preserve wishes to recognize and thank our event Sponsors:

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Addison Wolfe Real Estate
Bob Egan Entertainment
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Planning a Special Event?

Planning a reception, corporate event, reunion, baby shower or birthday party? The Preserve offers unique and picturesque venues for your special occasion. Consider us when hosting your next special event. Hosting an event at the Preserve is a privilege reserved for our Business Partners and Members at the family level and above.

For more information about Facility Rentals, visit our website: bhwp.org/plan-your-visit/Facility-Rentals.htm or contact Liz Poole Lamb, lamb@bhwp.org.

Don’t Miss the Fall Native Plant Sale
Members’ Preview Sale Event
Friday, September 5
FREE for Preserve Members Only!
Watch for More Details.

bee balm, Monarda didyma